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# JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1<sup>ST</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Representative Joel Kitchens  
Senator Luther Olsen

December 13, 2017

(608) 266-5350

(608) 266-0751

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**Madison** – This Thursday, the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding will hold a press conference to introduce the members and review the purpose of the commission.

State funding for public schools accounts for a third of our general fund and is our top expenditure of tax dollars. The distribution of state aid to schools is no longer considered straightforward. There is an intricate formula applied to general aid in an attempt to equalize each school district's ability to provide educational resources, and there are over two dozen categorical aids that are given to schools for specific purposes.

The formulas we use to give tax dollars to schools haven't effectively kept up with changing demographics and population trends. The time has come to carefully review the details of how we distribute tax dollars to schools in order to make the process more transparent, equitable and appropriate for the needs of our schools today and in the future.

Co-Chairs Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Sen. Luther Olsen (R-Ripon) will discuss the goals of the commission and what they hope to achieve over the coming months as the commission travels the state. The commission will have its first hearing following the press conference.

Where: Wisconsin State Capitol  
Assembly Parlor

When: Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M.

Who: Co-Chairs Rep. Kitchens and Sen. Olsen & members of the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding

*Credentialed members of the media are invited to attend.*